



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,132	02/26/2002	Stephen W. Hoxie	WRAIR99-54 04	5384

27370 7590 05/04/2006

OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE
U.S. ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND
ATTN: MCMR-JA (MS. ELIZABETH ARWINE)
504 SCOTT STREET
FORT DETRICK, MD 21702-5012

EXAMINER

TOMASZEWSKI, MICHAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3626

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-9, 28-35, and 41-42, drawn to a computer-readable medium containing a data structure for storing laser accident and incident information, classified in class 705, subclass 2.
 - II. Claims 10-14, drawn to a method for performing a search in a database, classified in class 707, subclass 3.
 - III. Claims 15-20 and 36-40, drawn to a method for providing information to a user based upon an input received from the user, classified in class 715, subclass 507.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, II and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if

Art Unit: 3626

they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention I has separate utility as to a computer implemented system or method particularly adapted for a health care management or delivery organization. Invention II has separate utility as methods of searching for (i.e., querying) data stored as a database in a computer or digital data processing system, including sequential searching, primary and secondary index searching, and bit-map searching of inverted lists or topological maps. Invention III has separate utility as a method of form filling or placing information in the location provided for such information. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and/or because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by

Art Unit: 3626

a diligently-filed petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(h).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Tomaszewski whose telephone number is (571)272-8117. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on (571)272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MT



JOSEPH THOMAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER